

Joseph Spriggs, Charles Swearingen, Richard Davis, Jonathan Hagar, and Joseph Perry, who were appointed at the last meeting of this county, a committee of correspondence, be hereby continued, and that the duration of their authority be limited to the second Tuesday in October next.

3d. *Resolved*, As the most convenient and effectual method of raising the sum of 1333 l. being this county's proportion of the sum of 10,000 l. which the provincial convention has appointed to be raised for the purchase of arms and ammunition, that a subscription be immediately opened in every part of the county, and that the following gentlemen be appointed to promote such subscriptions in their several hundreds.

Jonathan Hagar, Henry Snively, and Jacob Sellers, for Salisbury hundred.---Peter Bambidge, Benjamin Eastburn, Casper Smith, and Thomas Johnson, for Upper Kittston.---Edward Burgess, Walter Beall, and Joseph Perry, for the lower part of Newfound-Land.---Thomas Crelap, Moses Rawlings, and Richard Davis, jun. for Shipton.---William Deakins, Thomas Johns, and Walter Smith, for George-Town.---Joseph Chapline, and Christian Orendoff, for Sharpburg.---William Bailey, Samuel Wade Magruder, Andrew Hugh, and Charles Jones, for lower part of Patomack hundred.---William Blair, William Sheales, and Benjamin Ogle, in Tom's-Creek hundred.---George Stricker, William Luckett, jun. and Wesley Ridgely, in Killoston hundred.---Jacob Funk, Conrad Hogmire, Joseph Penry, and John Ingram, in Upper Anti-Eatom hundred.---Martin Johnson and Joseph Flint, in Linton Hundred.---C. Clinton, in Cumberland hundred. Thomas Beatty, Matthias Ringer, Christopher Stull, and T. Fleming, in Middle Monocofy hundred. T. Cramphin, Zad. McGruder, W. Baker, and Allen Bowie, in Rock-Creek hundred. Francis Deakins, R. Smith, S. Plummer, Z. Waters, Z. Linthicum, in Sugar-Loaf Hundred. Ephraim Howard, Charles Warfield, David Moore, John Lawrence, Henry Crawle, and William Hobbs, in Burntwoods hundred.---Thomas Hog, Henry Butler, and Thomas Crampton, in Lower Anti-Eatom hundred.---John Beall, Charles G. Griffith, Nicholas Hobbs, Haffl Dorley, and William Duvall, in Linga-hore hundred.---David Jones, Isaac Baker, and Jacob Friend, in Conococheague.---Jacob Good, John McCallister, Samuel McFarlan, Abraham Heiter, and John Key, in Tiney-Creek hundred.---Lewis Kemp, John Darnal, Thomas Knowland, and Leonard Smith, in Lower Monocofy hundred.---Samuel Harwood, Peter Becraft, and Richard Beall, of Samuel, in North-west hundred.---Charles Swearingen, Elie Williams, James Smith, Richard Davis, sen. and George Swingle, in Marsh hundred.---Brooke Beall, Samuel Weit, Nathaniel Offut, and Alexander Clagget, in upper part of Patomack hundred.---Charles Perry, Richard Crabb, and Gerard Briscoe, in Seneca.---Andrew Bruce, William Winchester, David Shriver, Nathaniel Norris, in Pipe-Creek hundred.---William Beatty, Joseph Wood, jun. Azel Waters, John Remsburg, Abraham Hoff, and Valentine Creager, in Manor hundred.---Henry Cox, Roger Johnson, and Richard Butler, for upper part of Monocofy hundred.---Henry Griffith, Richard Frook, and Henry Gaither, sen. in upper part of Newfound-Land hundred.---John Stull, Ortho Holland Williams, John Swan, and John Rentch, for Elizabeth hundred.---Philip Thomas, Thomas Price, Baker Johnson, Peter Hoffman, and Lodowick Weiner, in Frederick-Town hundred.---Ezekiel Cox, in Fort-Frederick hundred.---Eneas Campbell, John Fletcher, John Luckett, Alexander Whitaker, and Solomon Simpson, for Sugar-Land hundred. The said gentlemen are instructed to apply personally, or by deputy, to every free man in their respective districts, and to solicit a generous contribution. They are ordered to state accounts of the money received, and to pay it to the committee of correspondence, which is hereby appointed to meet, at Frederick-Town, the 23d day of March next; and they are further ordered to report to the said committee the names of such persons (if any) who shall refuse to subscribe.

4th. That Messrs. Thomas Johns, William Deakins, Charles Beatty, George Murdoch, John Stull, and John Swan, or any one of them, be empowered to contract, in behalf of the committee of correspondence, for any quantity of powder and lead, to be paid for on the said 23d day of March.

5th. In order that a committee of observation may be more conveniently chosen, and a more proper representation of the people may be had, the several collectors in each hundred are desired to give notice to those qualified by their estates to vote for representatives, of some time and place of meeting in the hundred, to elect members for a committee, agreeably to the following regulation:

When the number of taxables exceeds 100, the district shall elect one member, where it exceeds 200, and amounts not to more than 400, the district shall elect two members, where it exceeds 400, the district shall elect three members. The collectors are ordered to return such representatives to the committee of correspondence, on the said 23d of March; the committee so chosen shall then meet, and the authority of the present committee of observation be dissolved.

6th. *Resolved*, That Messrs. John Hanson, Charles Beatty, Upton Sheridan, Baker Johnson, Philip Thomas, Jacob Funk, Samuel Beall, Joseph Chapline, John Stull, James Smith, Henry Griffith, Thomas Sprigg, William Deakins, Richard Frook, William Deakins, and Thomas Cramphin, or any five of them, shall represent this county at any provincial convention to be held at the city of Annapolis before the 2d Tuesday of Oct. next.

A petition from the people called Dunkers and Mennites was read. They express a willingness freely to contribute their money in support of the common cause of America, but pray an exemption from the military exercise, on the score of their religious principles.

Resolved, That this petition be referred to the consideration of the committee to be chosen agreeably to the 5th resolve. In the mean time it is strictly enjoined, that no violence be offered to the person or property of any one, but that all grounds of complaint be referred to the said committee.

Signed per order, ARCH. BOYD, clerk.

TO THE PRINTERS.

At a time when the dearest rights of America are openly invaded, and the attention of every good man is engaged in her defence; when our affairs grow daily more alarming, and our unhappy disputes hasten

to a conclusion; an apology was indeed necessary from the citizen, for presuming to intrude himself upon the patience of the public. That he endeavoured to alarm his citizens without any cause, that he called upon them to meet and consult the means of repelling some imaginary violence, which existed only in his disordered brain, and could be suggested from his fears alone, and a consciousness of his having merited the reprimand of the public, is true; but that his conduct was deemed laudable, by any others but those, whom a familiar how do you, a gentle squeeze by the hand, or a charity dinner can procure, ought not to be credited. The American published an address to the inhabitants of this county. The citizen printed an hand-bill directed to the citizens of Annapolis. Neither of them have been printed in the gazette. The subject of the first, and the contents of the latter, are unknown to the public. The American, in his hand-bill urged, that the political salvation of all America depended on the event of the present struggle with the British ministry, and could only be secured by executing with fidelity and resolution the advice of the congress. That the congress had pointed out the means of preserving our freedom;—a suspension of our trade, and the necessary preparations to enable the colonies to repel force by force, if that should be employed to subvert their liberties. He argued, that the most unhappy event, to which the congress advised the colonies to extend their views, was a civil war: that the congress had advised the colonies to be in all respects prepared for every contingency, but had left the necessary means of preparation to each province, as best acquainted with their own peculiar circumstances: the deputies of this province having recommended a militia, and to raise money for the purchase of arms and ammunition. The American contended, that every man is bound to serve his country, that all are obliged or none; that every member of the society is obliged in duty to contribute his assistance, to support and defend the happiness of the whole; that this obligation is binding on all, and if any one man is exempt, no one is bound: that every man is bound in duty to contribute, in some proportion, to the property which he holds, and the more his property is worth, the more he ought to pay for the security of it; and that whoever should refuse to contribute, would act against his duty, the advice of the congress, and the recommendation of our provincial convention. The American contended for a strict compliance with the advice of the congress, and convention, as well to the militia, and raising money, as to any other resolve, or article of the association: That the private opinions of some few individuals, ought to have little weight in opposition to the advice of the continental congress, and the recommendation of our provincial convention. The American pointed out some few in this city, who, though blessed with very ample fortunes, had been applied to, and refused to contribute any part thereof to the support of the public cause; that the same persons had not contributed to the support of our distressed brethren in Boston, nor to defray the expenses of our delegates to the congress, and therefore he advised a publication of their names in the gazette, that they might be known and despised as the enemies of American liberty, he held them up as objects of the contempt, but not of the resentment, of the public.

The citizen in his publication, accused the American of circulating his hand-bill, for the most infernal and dastardly purpose of glutting private revenge with the sacrifice of a few individuals; that his hand-bills were only sent to the Elk-Ridgers, with whole vengeance he had threatened the citizens. He bestowed the appellations of ruffian, and son of distraction, on the American. He asserted, that he was a bankrupt both in fortune and reputation, and that his very existence depended on public convulsions. He charged him with having held forth the gentlemen of Elk-Ridge, as a band of bravos, into whose hands he could at any time put a dagger or a torch to destroy the lives and properties of those he hated or feared.

The American, in his address to the citizens, disclaimed so execrable a purpose, he denied that such conclusion was justified by any expressions in his hand-bill, he denied the truth of the several charges made against him, and called on the citizen for his proofs, or to submit to the imputation of having asserted a falsehood to the public. The citizens and the gentlemen of Elk-Ridge, were solely interested in the several accusations made by the citizen, against the American. If the city had met agreeably to the desire of the citizen, the American would have attended; but of such little consequence is the citizen, so contemptible is his influence, and such little regard did his fellow citizens pay to his request, no public meeting was ever held in consequence of it. At the meeting of the county the American attended, but the citizen never appeared.

The citizen in the last gazette has set forth many facts, containing very heavy charges against the principles and the integrity of the American, either to support his charge, that the American circulated his hand-bill, for the purpose of glutting private revenge; or his other accusation, of threats, by the American, of the vengeance of the Elk-Ridgers, against the citizens; or, which is more probable, to gratify the unremitting rancour and vindictive malice which he bears the American.

The motives, which induced the American to publish his address to the inhabitants of this county, can only be known to himself. He solemnly disclaims the villainous purpose alleged by the citizen. The motives which influenced the conduct of the American, are of no consequence to the public. It is immaterial to the community from what principles the American is actuated, if the measures he supports are beneficial to his country. It is of no moment to enquire, by whom an information is made, of an injury done to the public, but the proper question is, whether it be true or false. The American has carefully attended to the several charges, which the citizen, with rancorous rapture, has made against him. He solemnly avers, that every charge is either totally false, or most grossly misrepresented. He makes no doubt equal credit, at least, will be given to his veracity. The public cannot be interested in the truth of the accusations against him. The motives of the American, his private disputes, and conduct are of no consequence to the public; nor can a news-paper be the proper place for the discussion of them. He therefore declines to enter into a relation of them, or to produce proofs to falsify the citizen in his state of the facts. The American will not descend

to a scurrilous altercation with any man, much less with the citizen. But as the citizens, and the gentlemen of Elk-Ridge, are in some degree interested in the charge, and the American justly merits their censure and displeasure, if true, he will attend a public meeting of either, or of the committee of the county, a majority of whom the citizen has falsely alleged, concurred with him in sentiment, as to the purpose for which the American published his hand-bill; and though he will not call the citizen a ruffian, a calumniator, and a liar, yet he, there, will undertake to prove him so.

The American did observe, that the citizen, in his address, had not advanced one word as to the subject of his hand-bill. To this remark the citizen replies, that he declared the very hand-bill to be written for the purpose of glutting private revenge. The citizen cannot distinguish between the motive, the purpose of publication, and the subject matter of it.

The American was mistaken too, and gave a contradictory picture of the character of the citizen. He is too well acquainted with the original. The character of a proud, arrogant, insolent pedant may certainly be applied to the citizen, without attributing to him a politeness of manners, or a vivacity of genius. The citizen cannot distinguish between a farce and a contradiction.

The citizen was not the object of the American's hand-bill; he is too insignificant. His example can never injure the public cause, and though he gave his feeble assistance to support the late arbitrary and illegal proclamation, and has in every instance thwarted all public measures, yet he is beneath the resentment of the public. The citizen is the greatest enemy to his friends, whose public conduct can only pass without censure, when it passes without observation.

"The citizen would scorn to give a wanton affront," has not the citizen, with a malevolence of temper peculiar to himself, wantonly, and without any provocation, made an attack upon the character of a gentleman, uninterested and unacquainted with the present dispute? The man who thus wantonly stains his neighbour's character, would asiliate his person if he dared.

On the subject of the American's hand-bill to this county, but a few plain questions can arise. Whether the congress did not recommend contributions for supplying the necessities, and alleviating the distresses of our brethren at Boston?—Whether, when the congress advised the colonies, "to extend their views to the most unhappy event it is not plain and obvious, that the most unhappy event meant by the congress was a civil war? Whether, by the advice to the colonies, "to be in all respects prepared for every contingency," the congress did not mean the necessary preparations to enable the colonies to repel force by force, if that should be employed to subvert their liberties?—Whether the necessary means of preparation were not left by the congress to each province, as best acquainted with their own peculiar circumstances? Whether, when the provincial convention recommended a militia, and money to be raised in each county, for the purchase of arms and ammunition, and the committee for this county had adopted a subscription, every man in this county ought not to comply with those recommendations, and to contribute in some proportion to the property which he holds?—Whether some few individuals in this city, with very ample fortunes, have not, on application, refused to contribute any part thereof, towards the purchase of arms and ammunition? Whether the same persons contributed any thing to the support of our brethren at Boston, now suffering in the common cause, or to the support of our delegates to the congress? Whether the person who refuses to contribute, does not act against his duty, the advice of the congress, and the provincial convention, and whether his name ought not to be published in the Gazette?

The Citizen differs with the American, as to the construction of the advice of the congress to the colonies, "to extend their views to the most unhappy event," but his reasoning appears very inconclusive. The words seem plain, without any ambiguity or doubt, but the Citizen reasons by induction, and suggests, that the congress did not mean, by the most unhappy event, a civil war, nor, by the advice, "to be in all respects prepared for every contingency," that the colonies should be prepared to repel force by force, if that should be employed to subvert their liberties, and assigns for his reason, because, in the infancy of the dispute, it was thought, a suspension of our trade would effectually supersede the necessity of ever drawing the sword. This reason is not worthy the ceremony of a refutation. As the Citizen dissented in opinion from the American, why did he not explain what was meant by the congress? I cannot be satisfactory to deny the construction made by the American, unless the Citizen can shew what is to be understood by those words made use of by the congress.

The American did say, "that no argument had been urged to justify the few in this city, who refused to contribute." The Citizen has now given the reason, why they cannot consent to give the public the motives for their conduct. "Those few (says the Citizen) think themselves in these particulars accountable to none, as they desire none to be accountable to them. What an able advocate! if they act against the sense and interest of the community, they ought to be accountable to them for their conduct; and a rogue might with the same propriety argue, that he ought not to be accountable for his knavery, because he did not desire honest men to be accountable to him.

The Citizen says, "in respect of the subscription, they submit to a tax not laid by their legal representatives. Can the Citizen prove, that the money to be raised by subscription, and where there is no obligation to induce but a sense of duty, and no other mode to induce compliance but shame and infamy, is a tax?—But the persons, who recommended the money to be raised, are not the legal representatives of those who refuse. The forms of a constitution ought always to be dispensed with to preserve the substance. This argument may prove more than the Citizen may chuse to avow, at present. The congress are said, by the enemies of America, not to be their legal representatives. "It is probable (says the Citizen) part of the revenue arising from the tax may go into the pocket of some one individual." The gentlemen, to whom the subscriptions are payable, can only be meant by the Citizen, as it is possible any others can have an opportunity, if but

to pocket the money well established, insinuation by the Citizen shall conclude with publication: "Must they please, contrivance, without any perfect behaviour, and the man that desires, his eye will answer you, determined to do nothing, is conscious his address will answer no."

Annapolis, Feb. 23d.

Trad of a letter from

HAVE the most perfect you that this day was appointing a day to continental congress, at house by a majority For the Congress. buyer Phil. rock Tim. vington, Peter R. vinton, e Witt, an Cortlandt, P. borum, apt. Seaman, icoll, Woodhull,

Of this event I hear ample may be adopted, but my fears much good.

The testimony of the forth by a meeting ple, in Pennsylvania delphia the twen 1775.

HAVING confided by contest be gain and the people, the consequent the advances and private to dissuade the men joining with the p tered into by some ended, so we no and produced great

The divine principle, leads all w themselves as peace and avoid every m to the king, as sup thority of his gov of the late political appearing to be duty to declare o their spirit and te nature and prece the peace and men in these time cious consideration would be most ef obtaining the red

From our past and his royal an believe, that deo who are veiled w prevailing diffusi avail towards ob blishing the just public tranquillity modes of have involved th to produce viole subversion of t that liberty of c our ancestors w dangers and di settling in the v

We are; ther the peace and v dire against ev in opposition to all combination gal assemblies: the conscientio God, "by wh tice," we hope enabled to mai tions which m religious princ and his gover desiring the re which have b vices, and l their labours.

Signed JAMES

By Capt. H on the ninth. Majesty's Spe parliament.

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My Lords

IT gives n opening most daring low still un chislett's Ba fresh violen eedings ha